

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-7 were pending. Claim 6 has been cancelled, Claims 1, 4, and 7 rewritten, and Claims 8-10 added. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment.

Rejection of Claims

In the Office Action Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants have rewritten Claims 1, 4 and 7 in the manner indicated by the Examiner and submit that Claims 1-7 overcome the rejection.

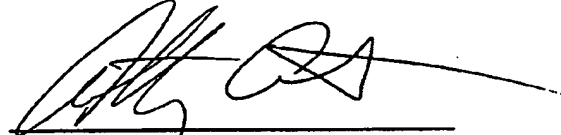
In the Office Action, Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Selker (U.S. Patent 5,874,697). Claims 3-7 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but the Examiner indicated they would be allowable if rewritten in an independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as well as overcoming the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Applicants have rewritten Claim 1 to incorporate the elements of Claim 6 and cancelled Claim 6. Applicants have added Independent Claim 8, having elements of Claims 1-3, and independent Claim 10, having elements of Claims 1, 2, and 4. Applicants thus submit that pending Claims 1-5 and 7-10 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek an allowance thereof. If for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony P. Curtis', is written over a horizontal line.

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